

2003 Report of Accomplishments Wahkiakum Conservation District



Natural Resource Improvements in 2003 - Summary

- Completed construction on two fish passage improvement on Nikka and Thadbar Creek. The project provides access to more than four miles of habitat.
- 10,000 Trees and shrubs planted along 1.5 miles of stream.
- Assisted the remaining four dairy operators in the District with cost share and technical assistance to develop and implement their dairy nutrient management plans. All cooperators are in a position to have their farms certified by December 2003.



Mission of the Wahkiakum Conservation District

The mission of the Wahkiakum Conservation District is to protect and improve the natural resources of the District and to guide resource development and use to provide the highest quality of life for present and future citizens.

Water Quality Implementation

- Assisted two landowners on Puget Island with the construction of 6,000 feet of fence to exclude livestock access to drainage ditches.
- Constructed exclusion fencing and planted riparian vegetation along Nikka and Thadbar Creek in conjunction with project to restore fish access.
- Assisted a landowner in Deep River with a wetland restoration plan and project proposal that was presented for salmon recovery funding but unfortunately was not funded.

Basic Funding

- Wahkiakum Conservation District uses its basic funding to assure continued availability of service to citizens and to support increasing involvement with policy making organizations. This year, funding helped us support the WACD and NACD, allowed the board to participate in the state convention, and provided some overhead support. These activities directly support the districts capacity to put conservation on the ground by enhancing the programs available to assist landowners.

Local Funding

- Wahkiakum County provided \$2,650 to support continued administration of district functions.

Professional Engineering

- Actively participated in the Southwest Engineering Cluster.
- Completed survey work for a Grays River Habitat Enhancement District project.
- Provided construction inspection for two culvert replacement projects.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- Worked with two landowner interested in the CREP. One has enrolled 70 acres into the program.
- Worked with one landowner to conduct site preparation activities on 14 acres.
- Conducted inspections on four existing sites and assisted landowners with maintenance practices as needed.

Dairy

- *Cost share and technical assistance was provided to four dairies resulting in implementation of best management practices necessary to implement their dairy nutrient management plans. All four dairies will be certified by the District by December 31, 2003.*

Watershed Conservation/Habitat Restoration

- *Construction of the Nikka Creek and Thadbar Creek fish passage improvement projects was completed. The project provides access to more than four miles of habitat.*
- *The District hosted watershed meetings in the Deep River, Grays River, Skamokawa Creek, and Elochoman River watersheds. The meetings were designed as an informational series to discuss water quality and fish issues in local watersheds and identify local concerns.*

Small Farm Programs

- *The District works very closely with non-industrial private forest landowners, using funding from all possible sources.*

Community Collaboration & Coordination

- *Worked with the Grays River Habitat Enhancement District to develop a project proposal that is currently being implemented to complete a geomorphic survey of the lower 14 miles of the Grays River.*

Information & Education

- *Worked with the local FFA chapter to assist with riparian planting projects on Nikka and Thadbar Creek.*
- *Participated in the regional and state Envirothon competitions.*
- *Prepared and displayed conservation information at the Wahkiakum County Fair.*

Washington Conservation Districts assisting land managers with their conservation choices

